Stay tune to the Business Resources for the Coronavirus page and your emails on any updated, and access to resources necessary to safely reopen your business and become Luzerne County Ready.

And lastly, there is information on the COVID-19 Relief Pennsylvania Statewide Small Business Assistance Program.

If you do not receive our email updates, please send your contact information to Leann Fallabel at lfallabel@hazletonchamber.org.
**State Representative Tarah Toohil Named 2020 Athena Business Woman of the Year**

The Greater Hazleton Chamber is proud to announce the 34th winner of the Athena Business Woman of the Year Award, State Representative Tarah Toohil.

The committee of judges reviewed the applications submitted on the basis of the three critical elements: excelling in professional endeavors, community service, and supporting and mentoring women.

Mary Malone, Chamber President noted “The Chamber membership has many talented women business leaders who work in their designated field of expertise. This year’s applications highlighted that talent pool.” The beautiful Athena Award, which is from the International Athena Association, is being sponsored for the first time this year by, Community Bank, N.A., Community Bank Pennsylvania President Barbara Maculino, a past recipient of Athena Award from the Wilkes Barre Chamber noted, “Tarah’s dedication to the youth of our community, and mentoring young girls to strive for their goals, are a testament to her application.”

The award will be presented on Thursday, September 10th, as part of the Chamber’s 128th annual meeting and business expo. Reservations for this event are required.

Representative Toohil noted how proud she was to join a long line of strong women who have received the award in the past.

**PFNonwovens Donates Masks to Businesses**

PFNonwovens, located in the Humboldt Industrial Park donated 5,000 masks for small businesses throughout Greater Hazleton. The Chamber held a mask pickup date in the lobby of the Markle building in Downtown Hazleton. Masks are still available. If you are interested, contact the Chamber. They are available to Small Businesses with 25 employers or less.

PFNonwovens sponsored the program. Folks are pre-packaged in packs of 25.

Pictured along with Mary Malone, President of the Chamber (on the left) is Maureen Brown-Flermo, Purchasing & Logistics Administrator from PFNonwovens.

**Funfest Will Still Unite the Community with a Re-imagined Event September 12 and 13**

Although Funfest will look a little different this year, it will still unite Greater Hazleton for the 41st consecutive year and hold to its traditions of celebrating community, music and art.

This year, Funfest will once again welcome the Hazleton Art League for their signature Peace Love Chalk event on Saturday, September 12 and hold a re-imagined parade on Sunday, September 13.

Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce President Mary Malone said, “Funfest has always been a community event that has morphed and changed but remained basic in its traditions. This year, we will still tie together our core themes of celebrating our heroes, the community, music and the arts, but do it in a way that is safe for everyone to enjoy given the time and place that we are in.”

Peace Love Chalk will be held Saturday, Sept. 12 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot the Hay- den Tower at the corner of Broad and Wyoming streets in Downtown Hazleton. An awards ceremony will follow at 3 p.m. Details for the event are still in the works. For more information, visit https://www.nazarethbaseball.org.

On Sunday, Sept. 13, the Quaker City String Band, longtime Funfest Parade participants, will return to Hazleton for a re-imagined parade beginning at 2 p.m. While the exact route is still being determined, the band will travel through parts of Hazleton on a flatted truck to allow the community to remain on their porches and in their yards to enjoy the music. The Quaker City String Band marches in the style of a traditional Philadelphia Mummers parade band, which is the parade that the Funfest Parade was modeled after 41 years ago.

Additionally, the parade committee will honor the inaugural winner of the Funfest Hometown Heroes contest. A total of 12 heroes were nominated throughout the past several months and all will be honored during the parade. The Hometown Heroes Initiative was started this year as a way to honor local military service members, emergency first responders and medical professionals for their service to Greater Hazleton.

Volunteers for the inaugural Community Celebration will be held throughout the month of August. “We will call on various downtown businesses and organizations to help bring the celebration to us, which is how community was born,” said Malone. “We invite the community to volunteer and come out and enjoy the parade and other events.”

More information on Funfest 2020 will be announced shortly via the Funfest website and Facebook page. Anyone with questions can contact Mary Malone at rmalone@hazletonchamber.org or call 570-455-1509.

**Immanuel Christian School Thrift Shop**

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the expanded Immanuel Christian School Thrift Store located on Locust Street in Hazleton. The store accepts donations during regular business hours, which are Monday to Saturday 9:30 am to 5 pm.

Pictured in the photo from the left is Mary Malone, Chamber President; Susan Selby, Immanuel Christian School CEO; Julliane Merger, Immanuel Christian Thrift Store Manager and Dan Gudaysh, Chamber Membership Director.

**Immanuel Christian School Thrift Shop**

**John Diana Insurance Agency**

In January 2020, the Early-Poll Agency, Inc. purchased the John Diana Insurance Agency. The Chamber and agency team gathered to celebrate the ribbon cutting on the John Diana Insurance Agency, a division of the Early-Poll Agency, Inc., which is located at 133 Susquehanna Boulevard in West Hazleton. The office is open from 9 am to 5 pm daily and offers a wide array of insurance and financial services.

Pictured from left to right is Barbara Bonner, Marilyn Diana, Sandy Mich- ely, Nicole Letcher, Anita Krajewski, Helen Eakins, Bobby Early, Denise Early, Brian Early, Celeste Bergen, Sarah Fabriolo, Erika Cook, Amanda Statchick and Dan Gudaysh, Membership Director of Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce.

**Thank you to our Digital Dialogue Sponsors**

Thank you to those who attended our recent digital dialogue programs! Since we have been unable to have in-person networking events, we have made the best of it and turned to technology! Our digital dia-

logue networking events have been successful! We even held our Annual New Member Gathering via Zoom.

A huge thank you to our event sponsors who have included: Tarry H. Jones & Co., The Plees Eatery & Spirits and Smith Floral Company.

**Thank you to our Breakfast Speakers & Sponsors**

In March, the week before quarantine, State Representative Gerald Mullery provided a legis-

lative update to our membership. The event was hosted by Edgewood and sponsored by AmeriHealth Caritas.

Our breakfast program resumed virtually in May with State Representative Tarah Toohil as our guest speaker: Fritzgeraldtown Senior Living Community sponsored the program. Fol-

lowed in the month of June was guest speaker State Senator John Gardner, pictured left. St.

Luke’s Miners Campus sponsored the program. And finally in the month of July Luzerne County Manager Dave Poole, Ego was sponsored by Pacheco & Joyce Insurance; John Fletcher, CEO of Lehigh Valley Hospital–Hazleton sponsored by Lehigh Valley Health Network and finally, Brian McLaughlin from My Benefits Advisor.

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**24th Annual Greater Hazleton Job Fair Taking Place September 17th**

The Chamber has rescheduled the date of our Annual Greater Hazleton Job Fair, which is normally held in March. We partner with the PA Careerlink of Luzerne County for this annual event, which is now being held on Thursday, September 17th at a new location, the Laurel Mall in Hazleton from 10 am to 4 pm. The event is being sponsored by the Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board, Inc and CAN DO, Inc.


If you are interested in taking part in the job fair register online at www.hazletonchamber.org or contact Leann at the Chamber.

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